

Vision - A World Class School

Arbor Heights' School Communicator

Communications for Our Community from "Your Principal"

arborheights.wikispaces.com/Principals+Corner

March 15, 2012

Arbor Heights Gains a NEW Computer Lab!

Last week we learned our school will receive from Seattle Public Schools Technology Support division, 32 new computers with updated wiring and infrastructure support. Additionally, we will receive 79 student computers to replace aging and in some classrooms add computers to those classrooms without computers.

The work will begin sometime around spring break. In the meantime, the technology team and staff are working on an improved layout for the lab to support student learning, MAP testing, and group information technology instruction. We are looking at recommendations for the type of technology platform to select- MAC or PC and also consider the pros and cons of a mixed platform school. For example, MAC computers in the lab with PCs in the classrooms, or an all PC or primarily MAC school.

In the near future, Arbor Heights' students will have the flexibility of using one or more computer platforms with the addition of the PTA sponsored mobile labs (2) equipped with Google Chrome books. Google Chrome books use web-based software with students saving their work to "The Cloud."

Today's students are different. They have lived with digital technology from a very early age. Technology is a natural part of how they live every day. To engage these "digital natives" in learning, teachers must use technology as an integral part of their teaching strategies. Integrating technology into every subject enhances teaching, leading to greater learning success.

During the next few weeks the Arbor Heights' teachers, Seattle Public Schools Technology and Facilities staff will address the following goals:

- Provide a comprehensive and functional technology infrastructure for the upstairs computer lab;
- Provide a computer lab layout conducive to instruction and assessment;
- Provide advice and opportunities to teachers as they consider technology platforms for our new lab and classrooms.

Future plans will include working with the district, staff and parents to develop a plan for easily accessible, relevant, and current data for teachers and parents through the use of our new technology and our website. And most importantly, we will continue to develop and effectively communicate a compelling and realistic vision of technology use in the learning environment, now and into the future.

We are excited to move forward with new technologies for our classrooms and computer labs. We see this as an important opportunity to equip our students with new tools for creativity and information gathering. Thank you for your support!

Efforts Underway to Modernize or Rebuild Our School

Please join the Arbor Heights' Community the evening of March 15 (BINGO NIGHT) to learn more about how to support our efforts to modernize or rebuild our school!



Are you creative? Are you in marketing? Do you have ideas? Do you LOVE Arbor Heights? If so, we'd love to have you on the committee to re-brand our school! Please contact Christy Collins at cacollins@seattleschools.org, by phone 206-252-0950 or in person!

MARCH**Mar 15**

~PTA Bingo/Pizza Night & Bake Sale 5:30-7:30

Mar 16

~NO SCHOOL~

Professional Development Day

Mar 21-23

~Secret Garden Book Fair

Mar 22

~Young Author's Day & Parent Night 6:30-7:30

APRIL**Apr 2**

~Monday Morning Monthly Meeting 9:30am

Apr 3

~PTA Board Meeting 7:00pm

Apr 10

~Class and Individual Picture Day

Apr 13

~Hawk-A-Thon K-5

Apr 16-20

~No School~ SPRING BREAK

Apr 26

~PTA General Meeting 6:30pm

Apr 28

~PTA Spring Clean-up Day 9:00-12:00pm

MAY**May 1**

~PTA Board Meeting 7:00pm

May 7

~Monday Morning Monthly Meeting 9:30am

May 7-11

~Teacher Appreciation Week

May 16

~Early Dismissal 1:00pm

May 17

~PTA General Meeting 6:30pm

~From the PTA~

~It's that time of year to **nominate** individuals to the **Arbor Heights PTA Board** for the **2012-2013 school year!** Stepping up and running for any of the board positions is a great way to make a difference at Arbor Heights and in the lives of our children. Some parents have already signed-up yet there are still numerous openings (often times a board position is shared between two people). Please contact Ken Cobley, AHPTA VP at topdawgken@aol.com for more information or to sign-up. For more information on the AHPTA Board, please visit arborheights.wikispaces.com/AHPTA

~Looking for volunteers for a **CoolMom Program!** Arbor Heights has been selected by CoolMom, a local sustainable living organization, in conjunction with funding from the City of Seattle to work with our school on a **safe drop off/pick up plan** and **development of a walking school bus**. First meeting, Tuesday March 20, 7:00 p.m. Contact Amy Christensen at amychristensen71@gmail.com. Please visit coolmom.org for more information on CoolMom.

~Don't forget to use these great **fundraising "shopping" programs** to help raise funds for Arbor Heights. They require nothing beyond your normal shopping routine and a percentage of your purchases go to Arbor Heights.

* **Amazon School Rewards** - arborheights.wikispaces.com/AHPTA+Amazon+School+Rewards

* **eScrip** - arborheights.wikispaces.com/AHPTA+eScrip

* **Box Tops for Education** - arborheights.wikispaces.com/AHPTA+Box+Tops+Education

* **Thriftway Receipts** - arborheights.wikispaces.com/AHPTA+Thriftway+Receipts

Every contribution makes a difference!

See you tonight at BINGO/PIZZA Night!

- ♦ Pizza served @ 5:30pm/
Bingo starts @ 6:15pm
- ♦ Don't forget to save room for the Bake Sale too!

